

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# GERALD L. K. SMITH

## **PART 17 OF 18**

**FILE NUMBER: 62-43818** 

subject

GERALD L.K. SMITH

PART 9

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. SMITH
PAGES REVIEWED: 3994
pages released: 2979
NOTES: SECTIONS 43-48

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: AEPAI	D L.K.SMITTH
FILE: 62.4	3818
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VOL	<u>- 43</u>
PAGES REVIEWED	= 44
PAGES RELEASED	= 4/
NOTES:	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT June 28, 1945 Director, FBI GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION This is the only information available in the Detroit Field Division concerning temple on behalf of SMITH. the alleged purchase of The Los Angeles Field Division is requested to endeavor to verify the above information and advise the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division as soon as possible. FORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8875/16 62-1126 Los Angeles



### City Council of the City of Yos Angeles -12 City Tiall

PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE PLANNING

June 28th 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 19/13/00 BY SESSOTOR

IN THE MATTER OF GERALD L.K. SMITH.

Mr. Smith came to this City a short time ago and desired to hold public meetings in Los Angeles but met with considerable opposition. The opposition was, in fact, so strong that he was unable to lease an auditorium large enough to accomodate those desiring to hear him. I interceded in his behalf at the Philharmonic auditorium for a meeting held June 25th. Mr. Smith asked me to act as Chairman, which I did, and upon announcement of this fact, myself, home and office were immediately beseiged with numerous telephone calls and deluged with letters threatening, etc., intimidating my actions in trying to uphold Mr. Smith's right of free speech and assembly as guaranteed by the Constitution. I have, of course, received many letters and calls commending me and congratulating me on my stand. However, there are many influential persons who believe Mr. Smith's activities might be subversive or not conducive to upholding our American form of government and that his past activities and his present inclination is that of anti-Semitic and anti-American.

I am assured by Mr. Smith that your office is entirely familiar with his background, his Americanism, and all that he stands for and I am asking that you advise me by return mail as to whether-or-not it is unAmerican and might be attacking our country in a subversive way to lend any moral support or aid to Mr. Smith in any manner in furthering his campaign for Christian-Americanism - so-called by him.

Since this matter is urgent I am sending this by airmail and would appreciate your reply by airmail for which I am darkening postage.

encl.

June 27, 1945

Company you leave sin containly sorry that I would for you of the last

constructs in the District.

P. S. I will certainly be interested to Jellero your stand on other matters of commity interest.

G. L. K. Smith speaks second time here

Gerald L. K. Smith, "America First" leader, made his second public appearance in Los Angeles last night, He spoke at the Philharmonic auditorium.

He lumped virtually all of his "enemies" under the heading of "communists" and so designated a picket line which appeared outside the meeting hall, carrying signs charging Smith with being a "fascist."

The meeting was chaired by.

The meeting was chaired by newly elected Councilman Meade McClanahan of the 13th district.

## Smith Opens Crusare nere, Hints Political Intervention

### America Firster Scores Communists, Defends Free Speech Before Packed Auditorium.

Gerald L. K. Smith launched We've put up with these long his America First crusade here enough; now we're gonna fight. last night before an audience that packed Philharmonic Auditorium here with enough guts you'd have despite a Workers' Party picket a grand fury investigation (of line that denounced the former threats against Smith and the ef-Huey Long lieutenant with pla- forts to prevent his meeting). cards calling him a Fascist.

The hook - nosed, florid - faced manuscript tonight; they can keep spellbinder from Louisiana at my \$1000 if they have the brass to tacked everything which he considered out of step with the Connot be bought for \$1000. stitution. He defended free speech and accused local Communists of can put Charles Lindbergh in the attempting to prevent his talk. He gutter and Walter Winchell on the served notice that he would inter- throne, it's time for good Amerivene in local politics and left the impression that his movement might center in this area.

Smith indicated that the politi-put the Cross beside the flag . . . "When I say America first, I cal wing of his movement was supporting City Councilman Meade mean not another penny of lend-McClanahan, who introduced him lease to Russia until she helps us to Los Angeles.

#### Landa Councilman

Speaking of McClanahan, Smith said. 'The man who presides here tonight can be mayor or governor or whatever he chooses to be. I have never met a man with more intestinal fortitude than Meade McClanahan.

The Councilman introduced Smith following an opening prayer by the Rev. Robert-P. Shuler, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church. McClanahan said threats had been President under Joseph Stalin?" but that he sponsored the meeting because he believed Smith had the right of free speech.

Smith made free speech one of his many themes. "The issue," he said, "is: Shall we who love Christ maintain the right of free speech in this country."

#### Scores Management

ated to his audience. He said he cleared. They reported there was put up \$1000 cash to cover any no violence. possible damage to the auditorium. another \$1000 to guarantee he three church groups of Los An-would not deviate from the type- geles disclaimed any knowledge of written copy of his speech (and which Smith boasted he would not look at once during his talk), another \$42.50 for a court reporter to record the evening's proceed-ings, a public liability bond of E. C. Farnham, executive secre-\$250,000 to insure the building and tary of the Church Federation of its occupants. Smith said he was loss angeles: the Rt. Rev. W. Berrequired to pay the police officers who were guarding the doors and that he had to furnish a riot and Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, chairman civil commotion policy.

If you ever intend to break a break it tonight," Smith shouted, "I got you covered."

### Refers to Mayor

Referring to Mayor Bowron's Against Ciro's statement that he hoped Smith would soon leave Los Angeles, the America Firster said. "If the preachers in this town ever let God in on what is going on here they'll have to elect a new mayor."

"If you had any public officials

"I'm not going to look at my

"When the time comes that they cans to rise up and fight.

#### Need For Cross

"America is doomed unless we

whip the Japs. . . .

"The Jews who support Com-munism in this country are the worst enemies of their own race. "I'm not going into the grave-

yard for an argument, but the greatest break America has had for a good many years was when Truman was inaugurated President of the United States. . . If Henry Wallace thinks Russia will surpass the United States (as Smith had quoted Wallace as saying) why doesn't he run for Vice-

Crowd In Square Smith spoke from a platform on which two rows of local residents flanked him. The majority of them were clergymen, he said, and asked for a showing of hands from the audience to support his claim that another 100 ministers of the gospel were there.

Loudspeakers carried his ad-He denounced the management dress outside the building where of Philharmonic Auditorium for a crowd had assembled in Pershthe restrictions which it placed ing Square. A large force of poupon him and which he enumer-lice was there to keep sidewalks

In a statement issued today. geles disclaimed any knowledge of the "so-called California Pastors Committee" which Gerald L. K. Smith claimed was supporting his movement.

The statement was signed by Dr. of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California.

# **OPA Files Suit**

The OPA today cracked down on Ciro's swank night spot, for al-legedly overcharging in tax col-lections on food and drink bills.

Smith's gesture with this remark left his hand pointing at Councilman McClanahan, who had just informed the audience that who does business under the name the City Council president, Robert City Council president City City Council president City City City Cit

McClanahan, who introduced him lease to musia until she hens us to Los Angeles.

### Lauds Councilmen

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#### Scores Management

upon him and which he enumerated to his audience. He said he put up \$1000 cash to cover any possible damage to the auditorium. another \$1000 to guarantee he would not deviate from the typewritten copy of his speech (and which Smith boasted he would not look at once during his talk), another \$42.50 for a court reporter to record the evening's proceedings, a public liability bond of \$250,000 to insure the building and its occupants. Smith said he was required to pay the police officers who were guarding the doors and that he had to furnish a riot and civil commotion policy.

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### Befers to Mayor

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just informed the audience that the City Council president, Robert L. Burns, had warned him not to be too prominent if he wanted to remain in the council.

Smith claimed that 1000 Cali-

fornia preachers were behind his

movement.

The following comments indicate the range of his remarks.

When the New Deal machine shot Huey Long they knew the man they had to kill to get re-elected in 1936.

"I wouldn't trade one pentacostal preacher who knows how to convert people for all the stuffedshirt modern preachers between New York and Los Angeles.

whip ti

aps.

s who support Comthis country are the "The munism worst, enemies of their own race.
"I'm not going into the graveyard for an argument, but the greatest break America has had for a good many years was when Truman was inaugurated President of the United States, . . . If Henry Wallace thinks Russia will surpass the United States (as Smith had quoted Wallace as saying) why doesn't he run for Vice-President under Joseph Stalin? Crowd In Square

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gospel were there. Loudspeakers carried his ad-He denounced the management dress outside the building where of Philharmonic Auditorium for a crowd had assembled in Persha crowd had assembled in Pershthe restrictions which it placed ing Square. A large force of police was there to keep sidewalks cleared. They reported there was no violence.

In a statement issued today, three church groups of Los Angeles disclaimed any knowledge of the "so-called California Pastors Committee" which Gerald L. K. Smith claimed was supporting his movement.

The statement was signed by Dr. E. C. Farnham, executive secretary of the Church Federation of Los Angeles; the Rt. Rev. W. Bertrand Stevens, Bishop of Los Angeles (Episcopal Church); and Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, chairman of the Board of Rabbia of Southern California.

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In a treble damage suit filed by Smith's gesture with this remark left his hand pointing at Councilman McClanahan, who had was asserted that H. D. Hover, was asserted that H. D. Hover, who does business under the name "Ciro's of Hollywood." at 8433 Sunset Blvd., collected an excess of \$4114.55 in taxes on food and drinks between July 1944 and March 1945.

This is the second crackdown by the OPA on Hollywood night spots. Last January a number of nightclubs, including the Trocadero and the Sunset House, were taken to task for allegedly dealing in black market meat.

### Officer Killed After Reported Missing

Reported missing after the sink-Hates Fascism in America Philippines last May, Lt. William Who hates Fascism more than Hammond Shoup, 29, of 1927 N. Hillhurst Ave., was actually lost wour speaker.

"We're not going to let Hitler, was actually lost, in an engagement that took place.

Mussolini, Stalin or Edward G. Oct. 24, his family disclosed. Lieu-Robinson (film actor who obposed Smith's talking here) tell us we ow, Helen, 25, and a son, Tommy, can't have free speech in this city. Peoples World

### McClanahan & Gerald Smith

It hasn't taken long for Councilman Meade Mc-Clanahan of Los Angeles to show his true colors. Elected only a few weeks ago, McClanahan is using his office to help promote the pro-Fascist activities of Gerald L. K. Smith.

McClanahan not only admits but boasts that he acted as front man for Smith in renting the Philharmonic Auditorium for a mass meeting June 25. Fortunately, the rental was cancelled.

In the April election campaign in the 13th District the voters were flooded with Jew-baiting material on behalf of McClanahan.

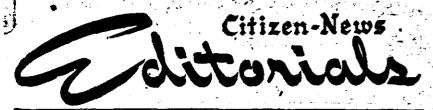
That gentleman, it will be recalled, expressed "disapproval" of race prejudice while at the same time and in the same breath he covertly helped to spread this poisonous Hitler doctrine.

Now the hypocrisy and essential un-Americanism of McClanahan's attitude is fully revealed; he has aligned himself with one of the most rabid race-baiters in the country.

Little wonder that the people of the 13th councilmanic district are shocked and are, McClanahan admits, "bombarding" him with criticism. Only McClanahan says they're not really people—they're only Communists.

Ex-Councilman Roy Hampton, also from the 13th District, used to answer all criticism by hollering "Reds!" But he learned to his sorrow that the so-called Reds were the majority of the voters in his district.

We think McClanahan is destined to learn the same lesson.



Hollywood, Tuesday, June 19, 1945

70

Disappointing

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF COUNCILMAN Meade McClanahan that he would introduce Gerald K. Smith at a mass meeting was disappointing to many voters of the Councilman's 13th district who supported his election.

Smith is the head of the America First Committee, a defender of the late Huey Long and a champion of some causes with which most

Americans are not in sympathy.

McClanahan stated that he is "alarmed over the Communist menace, especially since reading that the reds have planned to move their strategical headquarters from New York City to Hollywood." Smith, according to McClanahan is hated by the Communists who "will do anything to stop his crusade which now enrolls three million people."

That McClanahan is alarmed over the Communist menace is commendable. That the Communists hate Smith is doubtless correct. But these are not sufficient reasons for a public servant, representing a district of fair-minded, earnest Americans, to align himself with Gerald

K. Smith.

True, the Councilman said that he had been assured that "the moment anything is said that is not first class Americanism the meeting will be adjourned." But his statement indicated that the Councilman was aware of some of the charges that have been made against Smith and that there was need for the taking of precautions.

Councilman McClanahan didn't take enough precautions.

One cannot effectively fight Communism by supporting Gerald K. Smith. Smith causes more people to align themselves with the Communists than he arouses to opposition against them.

The fight against Communism cannot be won by the stirring of class, religious, or racial hatreds. To promote hatreds while attacking Communists is to cause ignorant people to believe that the Communists are the only people who are opposed to hatreds.

The fight against Communism cannot be helped by decrying it at the same time that a defense is made of Huey Long, as tyrannical a

dictator as the dictatorship of Communism.

Smith, who has been granted his Constitutional right of freedom of speech, should grant to other citizens of the United States their full Constitutional rights of equality among their fellow citizens.

No blow is struck against Communism by arguing for the right of a few to rule the many. Communism is a menace because it has denied democratic rights, freedom of speech and freedom of religion.

The United States has reason to be proud of the success it has built on the foundation of freedom of religion and speech and freedom from prejudices.

Prejudices are not stirred by people interested in the welfare of

this nation.

People truly interested in this country's welfare and the maintenance of its proud position are constantly on the alert to minimize prejudices.

. Communism isn't at war with Fascism or Fascism with Communism as some would have us believe. Both are upholders of regimentation and totalitarianism. Both deny freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Both are enemies of democracy.

We will fight them both, and fight prejudices if we would main-

tain the glory of American democracy.

Experimenting

WHENEVER PROPOSALS! ARE MADE in Congress to restore world trade some of our Congressmen take the view that we are merely being charitable toward other countries. Or they argue that our own

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tain the glory of American democracy.

Experimenting

WHENEVER PROPOSALS ARE MADE in Congress to restore world trade some of our Congressmen take the view that we are merely being charitable toward other countries. Or they argue that our own interests are being sacrificed to foreign interests.

The Senate Finance Committee has received stacks of statistics on the benefits of the lowered tariffs involved in mutual trade agreements with other countries. Nevertheless, the Committee voted 10-9 to limit

tariff cuts to 50 per cent of the 1934 tariff peak.

The State Department pointed out that most of our bargaining power with our principal foreign customers had been used up and that this proposal would not improve conditions. But the committee was unimpressed by this argument or the argument made at the San Francisco Conference that restoration of world trade through mutual exchange would help to promote world peace.

Experience shows that universal high tariffs stifled trade and that lower tariffs have tended to restore it with other countries that

have made concessions to us in return.

We experimented with high tariffs without good results. Our experiments with reciprocal tariff reductions have been beneficial.

Warning

FRANK BORZAGE WARNS AGAINST a drift toward pictures glamorizing gangsters and black market racketeers. He does not want the world to think that these people are typical Americans.

Those who remember the picture of America that was spread through the crime pictures of the early 30's will hope that Borzage's

olea is effective.

Pictures faithfully portraying America and every other country can do much to bring about the peaceful world for which we are fighting.

Divided

THE SUPREME COURT DECISION, ruling by a vote of 5 to 3 that Harry Bridges cannot be deported, settles a long standing question. It won't change the opinions of anyone. The public has been divided in its opinions and the split decision of the Supreme Court emphasizes the differences of opinion.

If Harry Bridges never was a Communist as he says, then we hope that he never becomes one. If he was a Communist as was

charged, we hope that he has permanently reformed.

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MACORDED -438/8-7#2 July 2, 1945

Mr. Meade McClanahan City Hall Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. McClanahans

This will acknowledge your letter of June 28, 1945, with enclosures.

With regard to your inquiry, I must advise you that it has long been the rule of the attorney General that this Bureau hold its files confidential and available for official use only. Therefore, I regret that under this rule, it will be impossible to answer your inquiry.

I am sure you will appreciate the soundness of this practice and understand that no inferences should be drawn from our inability to furnish the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/3/82 BYSP-1875/max

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tame
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mise Gandy

Skills from

FP

#### INVESTIGATION BERAL BUREAU OP

This case originated at DETROIT, DETROIT File No. 52 TICHIGAN Period 3/31;4/2,12,21, Date Report made at Report made by 5/29/45 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 14/45ز30;5/11 Character of case INTERNAL SECURITY GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST FARTY SEDITION

UNCLASSIFIED

10/13/82 BYSAGO

SHITH spoke at meetings held in Buffalo, New York, on April 8, 1945, and in Detroit, Michigan, April 19, 1945. Left Detroit for San Francisco April 21, 1945, and held meetings of his followers in Chicago on April 22, in St. Louis April 24, Denver April 30, and Salt Lake City May 3, 1945. Arrived at San Francisco May 6, 1945, for purpose of "observing" work of the United Nations Conference and will probably spend several weeks in that city. Apparently has made no plan for interfering with work of the conference. He has stated he will report on the conference for a group of congressmen and that at the conclusion of the conference, his efforts will be directed to preventing approval of the conference program by Congress.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES TYTEED BY ROUTING

REFERENCE

 $\frac{(61-7055)}{(61-7055)}$  and 62-43818

FULP(S) OF Decla

Report of Special Agent 28, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan. dated March

Letters from the Detroit Field Division to the Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City and San Francisco Field Divisions dated April 3, 1945, and

COPIES DESTROYED April 17, 1945.

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INDEXED Copies of this Report - Bureau (Encl) 2 - San Francisdo INDEXED IN Chicago 1 - Philadelphia
 (Information) PUBLICATION - Denver ashington Field (Information) - Salt Lake City 1 -MX - 74 3 - Detroit

(DE-62-1126)

DETAILS:

### At Detroit, Fichigan

Subject SMITH has made a series of talks at various meetings within the past few weeks, the first of these being at Buffalo, New York, on April 8, 1945. The Buffalo speech was given at the Hotel Statler in that city before a meeting of the Eastern Monetary Conference sponsored by the Buffalo Economics: League under the direction of JOSEP STOEPPEL, a close friend of SMITH'S.

He had a meeting of his followers in the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on April 19, 1945, two days prior to his departure for San Francisco. The room in which he spoke was filled to capacity, and the crowd has been estimated between 350 and 500 people.

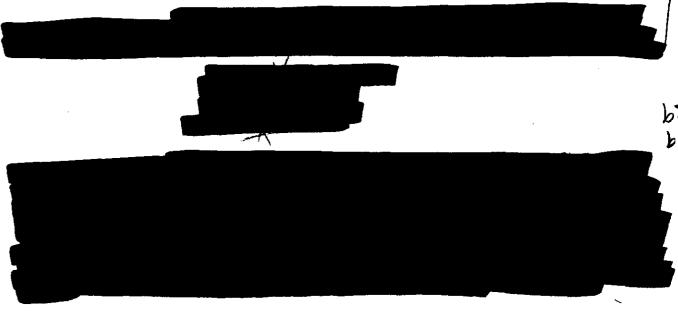
STITH discussed principally the probable consequences of the death of president Roosevelt and stated he would support President Truman, whom he believed to be a good man, providing Truman would renounce any connection with International Bankers, the CIO and the Communists.

the Dumbarton "Hoax," the "Crime of Crimea," the "Bretton loods Steal," and the San Francisco "Sell Dut." STITE stated that he was going to San Francisco to "observe" the workings of the conference and that he expected to have 27 assistants there who would help him to talk to the various delegates and learn what was going on. He said that there were 28 members of Congress, including some senators, who looked to him for information as to what is actually happening at San Francisco and that it was his duty to report to these man.

He stated that he did not have any particular plan for interfering with the actual functioning of the centerice, although he said that it might become necessary to picket the hotels in which certain of the delegates were living, just to let them know there was a nationalist movement in the United States. SMITH stated, however, that his principal work would be done after the conference had concluded and that he would then devote his attention to defeating any program adopted at the conference. He said that in order to do this, the strategy would be to delay a vote on these measures for as long as possible. He said he would try to find some patriotic members of Congress who would filibuster and would prevent a vote until the United States soldiers coule return from overseas at which time he felt the soldiers would insist that Congress kill any measure calling for internationalism. He pointed out specifically that he wanted the soldiers rather than his nationalist group to appear as the persons who demanded that Congress vote against any measures adopted by the San Francisco Conference.

Informant also stated that SMITH said the country could thank the Nationalists for the defeat of Henry Hallace last year, and stated the country would now be in Communist hands if Hallace rather than Truman was president. He expressed the opinion that he did not believe Truman would go along with the internationalist group, and he urged his followers to write President Truman frequently and explain that they were against any international agreements. SITH also stated that he would send his confidential reports on the San Francisco Conference to all persons who made donations at this meeting, whereupon a collection was taken up. Donors were also promised a free copy of a bookby "Americanus," which SITH as apparently distributing. Literature passed out at the meeting included SMITH'S monthly letter to his followers for the month of March, 1945, and various old editions of his magazine "The Oross and the Flag." The Bureau was supplied with a copy of the March latter in the referenced report.

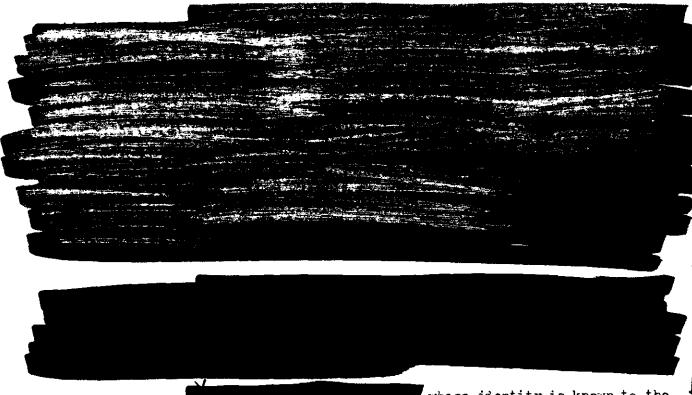
Informant also stated that copies of a petition sponsored by Father TENTINIELLO of Huntsville, Alabama, calling for an investigation of the Pearl Harbor disaster were circulated at the meeting. A copy of the invitation for this meeting indicated that it was held under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee "representing 21 Nationalist groups," and it is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.



A letter sent by SITH to his followers during April stated, will have at least 10 instructed observers at San Francisco.

In his April letter to his followers entitled "Bloodshed and Treason," S'ITH refers to the conference as the biggest thing of its kind

in the history of the world and states it will represent "The supreme effort of international politicians to break down our national sovereignty." He pointed out that when the agreements reached at San Francisco are presented to the United States Senate "that will be the time you and I will have to put up the fight of our life to prevent the Senate from approving anything that will do injury to America's future." "We stated he was going to the conference so he could get the "real inside dope on what takes place there," which would be a great help in fighting the approval of the "San Francisco Sell-Out" when it comes before the Senate.



Bureau, who furnished this information did not know whether would attend.

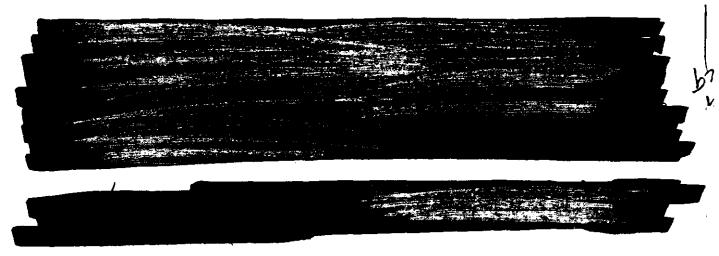
According to SHITH also planned to meet of Los Angeles, California, during the San Francisco Conference. Mas associated with SHITH last year in a plan to declare the presidential election invalid, which plan, however, was never carried through.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1	Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.
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	Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies);
	as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
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	For your information:
攻	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: $62-43818 - 743                                  $

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A co y of the invitation to the Chicago meetings, which were held at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. April 22, 1945, is being sent as an enclosure to the Bureau with this report.



According to SMITH is reported to have stated at the St. Louis meeting that the Yalta Conference in which the United States supported "Russian Communist enslavement of innocent Germans" was the "Crime of Crimea" and SMITH also is reported to have said that there were millions of people in Germany who were no more responsible for Hitler than SMITH was responsible for the New Deal. Informant stated that many persons sympathetic to Germany were in attendance at the meeting and warmly received the sentiments as above expressed by SMITH.

The meeting hold by SMITH in Denver, Colorado, April 20, 1945, at the Englewood Tabernacle, which is the church operated by Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, was arranged for by SPRINGER. The meeting at Salt Lake City, which was held at the Hotel Utah on May 3, 1945, was arranged by of Salt Lake City. According to

the meeting was a big success and about 1,000 people attended.

1,1



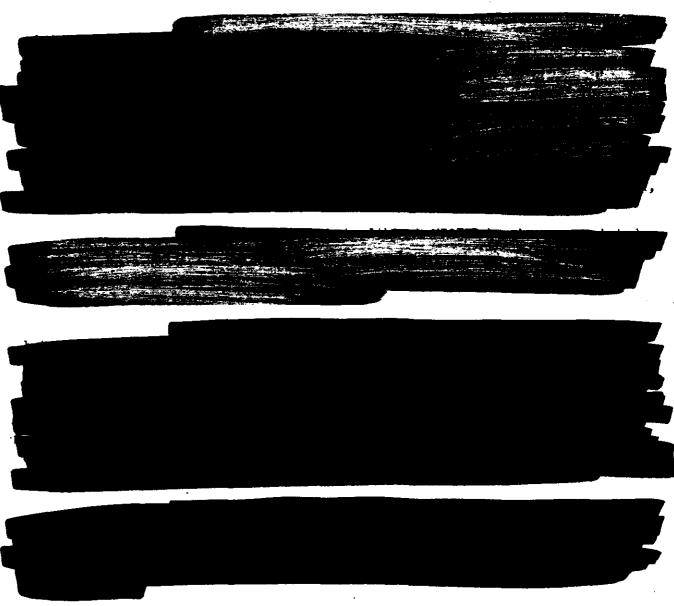
He told that he was making a list of the people who had answered the questionnaire he sent out some months ago inquiring as to whether the person answering the questionnaire could come to lashington at SMITH'S request. Apparently a number of people indicated they could do so, and SMITH told informant that he was going to use these names at the time of the Congressional hearings on the San Francisco proposals. Informant thought that SMITH would try to gather as many of his followers as possible to impress the Congressional Committee of the strength of the opposition to such a proposal.

STITH continues to maintain his Mashington activities through RALPY BERNAN and the latter's wife, MAGDALENE. The BEARMANS live at 1921 M Street, N.E., ashington, D.C.

In a contact with Mrs. BEARMAN during March, SMITH pointed out it was very important that he be informed concerning committees which were meeting to consider legislation in which he was interested and requested her to get the names of the secretaries of all important and special committees in both houses so that if necessary eight or ten telephone calls would enable him to determine what committees were meeting at a particular time and what legislation was being considered. He also told her he was very anxious to know what was being done in the house on the Bretton Woods plan and wanted to know whether the plan was being considered by any committee. He requested her to let him know immediately since he wanted to arrange for someone like CAPL MOTE to appear before the committee if there were any open herrings.

Then DON LONBECK visited 'ashington in March, 1945, SMITH instructed him to contact Yr. and Wrs. BEAR AN and also suggested that he speak to the the Chicago Tribune Office. It is 'ashington correspondent for this hawspaper and is believed to be the individual to whom SMITH had reference when he stated sometime ago that he had a contact in Tashington who was in and out of the hite House several times a week. LOHBECK was also

requested to call on Congressman Clare E. Moffman of Michigan and Senator Burton K. heler. LOMBECK was advised that LIBBY, probably referring to FREDEICK J. LIBBY who has been an advocate of a negotiated peace, had an office in Tashington. LOMBECK was advised to avoid contacting anyone "who has been in trouble." Mrs. BLANGAN was requested to see that LOMBECK was taken care of during his visit in Tashington.



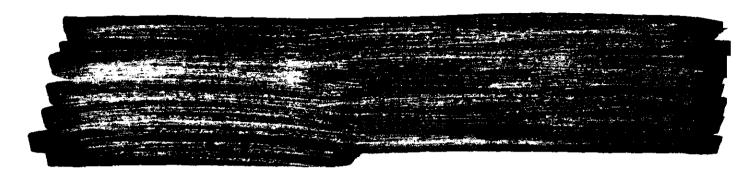
According to STTH is sending copies of his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" to all mimbers of Congress. He has had 10,000 copies of his lashington News Letter-head printed and has ordered additional large quantities of stationary for his Nationalist News Service.

VIRGINIA LOMBECK, who is in charge of his business office, advised informant that during one week in April she had run off 23,000 pieces of mineographed literature. One particular item, the exact nature of which was unknown to informant, was mailed out in the quantity exceeding 8,500 copies at one time.

A pamphlet, "Those Concept is it?" written by Mrs. BENTYA GLEBI of Dayton, Ohio, is being distributed by him in some quantity. Trs. GLEBI is a member of one of the Mothers' groups which is closely aligned with SMITH. SMITH has ordered an additional 2,000 copies of the book Forty Years of Poosevelt" by Earl SOUTHAND of Chicago and has been in contact with DOW LOHBECK to arrange for publication of a pamphlet written under the pen name "Americanus," the exact title of this pamphlet not being known, but "Americanus" is believed to be the pen name of CARL NOTE of Indianapolis, a close friend of SMITH.

During the latter part of April and the first part of May, SMITH had printed and distributed more than 11,000 copies of his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag". He is presently conducting a campaign to increase the number of subscriptions for this magazine, and in a latter sent out very recently to the present subscribers, he has indicated that he wanted the present subscribers to send him the names of "good American citizens" whom they believe would be interested in "The truth concerning events in ashington and elsewhere." SMITH stated he wanted the new subscribers to be people named by the present subscribers and who were enthusiastically familiar with his editorial policies. The names thus submitted would be sent copies of the magazine for two months in the hope that they would then subscribe. SMITH stated in this letter that the time has come for him to expand his educational program and "We must enlighten an increased number of people." A copy of this letter is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

Some of SMITH'S literature is finding its way into the hands of members of the Armed Forces, since stated that SMITH'S December, 1944, letter to his followers entitled "Deer Follow American" and a reprint of an article by JOHN FLYNN entitled "Pearl Harbor Blame Laid to FDR Blunder," which reprint has been widely distributed by SMITH were found by a member of the Armed Forces in a Army Meapons Carrier at 6th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1945.



Letter" began with the issue of March 17, 1945. It is noted that throughout these various issues SMITH follows generally the Nationalist isolationist, anti-Administration, anti-Semitic and anti-Communist policy which has characterized his other publications. In the initial issue of March 17, 1945, SMITH stated that Rooseveld had shocked even his own "palace guard" by admitting he favored Stalin's plan for forcing 10,000,000 Germans into human slavery. Another item in the same issue stated that at the Yalta Conference practically every terrible proposal originally made by Henry Morgenthau for the debasement and destruction of the German people was approved.

In the issue of March 24, 1945, he stated, among other things, that the rapid under-surface growth of Mationalism in America was creating a panic in the Thite House. He also pointed out that the law recently passed in New York State, which was supposed to remove racial bias, has proved to be a monstrosity and actually stimulating racial bias.

In the issue of March 31, 1945, he accused England of hoarding food given her by the United States in order that she might subsequently distribute it to European nations in a war that would build up political good will for England. He stated that the Yalta agreement was an abject surrender of restern civilization to the Communism of Stalin and pointed out that experts believe the Japanese war will last until 1947 and eventually cost one-third of a trillion dollars.

The issue of April 7, 1945, was devoted largely to attacks upon the Bretton Goods and Dumbarton Oaks agreements, and in the issue of April 14, 1945, the San Francisco Conference was condemned because it was allegedly based upon secret deals between Stalin and Roosevelt. STER points out in the same issue that a large sum of money has been set aside by the "propaganda agencies" for the purpose of attacking a Chicago Tribune, " the New York News." and the "Mashington Times-Herald," all of which are said by SMITH to be Nationalist newspapers.

In the issue of April 25, 1945, SMITH states that President Truman is surrounded by his worst enemies, including Henry Wallace and Sidney Hillman, and unless he cleans out Sthis gang," they would ruin him within thirty days.

In the issue of May 2, 1945, he complains about the great quantity of meat being sent to Russia while Americans do not receive any meat. He also stated that President Truman wanted an investigation of the Pearl Harbor scandal but that terrific pressure would be brought to bear by ruthless and poverful forces to prevent the facts from becoming known.

In the issue of May 9, 1945, he expressed the view that President Truman is a Mationalist and that his apparent Internationalism is likely an evidence of party regularity. He states that wise observors in Mashington believe the San Francisco Conference would be a failure and that a propaganda campaign led by a Jewish Congressman was being launched in Mashington to brand all Mationalists and America Firsters as Fascists. He stated that a determined and vicious effort was being made to stop the publication of "The Letter." Copies of all of the above issues are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report, and extra copies of the issues of March 17, 24 and 31 are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

SITH continues to follow in this publication the same general editorial policy which he has been following for some time. He praises various prominent Nationalists, particularly Senator Burton K. Theeler and former Senator Gerald P. Nye and Reverend ED And LODGE CORRAN of Brooklyn, New York, head of the International Catholic Truth Society. He states that Stettinius is merely a stooge and Harry Hopkins sets out the policy of his own National Emergency Committee, calls for a definition of war aims and issues a warning and a call to action to various groups in the country calling for their support of Nationalism and the America First Party against what he refers to as the "Enemies of America." One of the feature articles by Reverend ARTHUR W.

In the April issue, he condemns the "Baltimore Smear," by "certain Jewish Communists," of a group known as American Action, Incorporated. He condemns the alleged threat of Gentiles by a writer in "The American Hebrewy denounces WALTER INCHELL, the alleged Russian control of the Crimean Conference and secret diplomacy. One of the leading articles is the reprint of an editorial by United States Senator Harlan Bushfield of South Dakota on Dumbarton Oaks.
SMITH also devotes considerable space to the incidents surrounding their meeting in Chicago on March 15, 1945, under the caption "Chicago Christians Victoricus."

The May issue contains the second part of the speech of Senator Bushfield under the caption "Super State Opposed" and reprints an

article from a "Washington Times-Herald" of March 29, 1945, calling for the formation of a new political party in the United States that would appeal to "Southern and Western America first and individualist's sentiments primarily." The balance of the magazine devoted to editorial comment written by SMITH follows his usual anti-British, anti-Russian, anti-Communist and anti-Semitic policies. Copies of the March, April and May issues of the "Cross and the Flag" are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

In most of his literature, SMITH continues to emphasize the Chicago meeting of March 15, 1945, in the course of which there was a considerable disturbance outside the meeting hall, which, according to SMITH, was inspired by "Jewish Communists." SMITH has indicated that he believes the incidents surrounding this affair, together with the newspaper publicity, to be very favorable to him. He has reprinted the greater part of the article appearing in his April issue under the title "Chicago Christians Victorious" and has distributed this as a pamphlet among his followers. In the pamphlet he states that the full story would be told in his April, 1945, letter. The so-called full story is set out in this letter under the title "Bloodshed and Treason." Copies of this pamphlet and also of the April letter are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

Obtained copies of newspaper

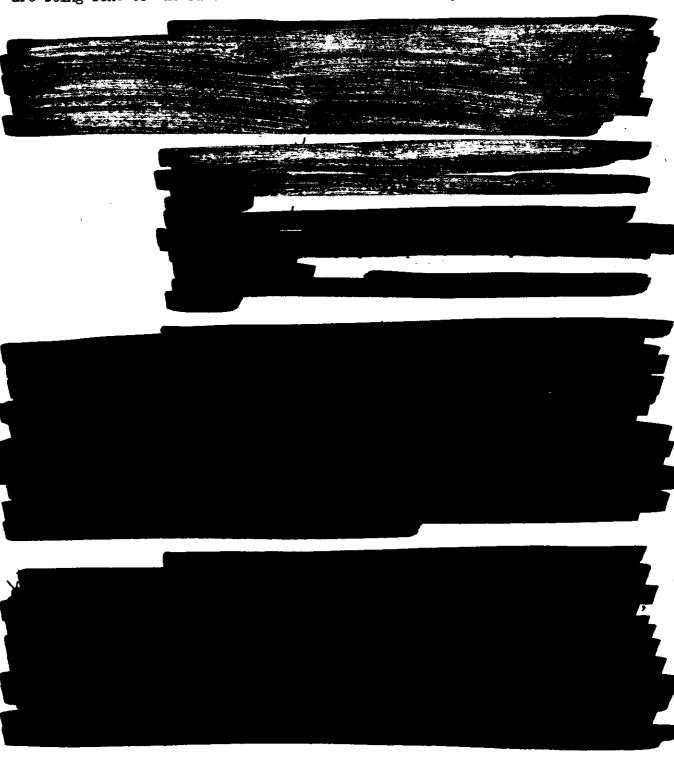
clippings from the Chicago Daily Tribune" of March 13, 14 and 15, 1945. The first of these carried an editorial "100 Tires Tarn of Bloodshed if SMITH Talks." The second carried the headline "Reject Protest Against Speech by GFRALD SMITH," and the article of March 15th stated that the police would guard SMITH'S rally on that night.

A copy of this list is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division, and copies of the newspaper clippings mentioned above are being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

obtained a copy of the article in the Jewish newspaper, "The Sentinel," for Narch 15, 1945, containing an article indicating that numerous protests had been received against the rally which SMITH intended to hold in Chicago that evening. The editorial from the same paper pointed out that though SMITH had been able to carry through with his scheduled meeting "he and his Fascist movement suffered a staggering defeat" and that "the fight has not ended." A clipping from the Chicago Daily News" of March 16, 1945, described the SMITH meeting and carried a picture of SMITH alongside the article. An article in the "Chicago Tribune" of March 19, 1945, stated that the American Legion denied having taken any part in the demonstration

(No 62-1126)

which was carried on outside the hall in which SMITH spoke. These clippings are being sent to the Burcau as enclosures with this report.





SMITH has also been in contact with his former secretary, BERNARD DOMAN, who has now returned to Detroit and is working for the printing company which does most of SMITH'S printing. According to an individual named

and whose headquarters were at contact with SMITH on several occasions. Evidently the matters he conferred with SMITH about were of importance, but the informant was unable to learn the nature of their conversation. SMITH has had some arguments with GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, who is head of a group in that city known as the "Constitutional Americans." FOSTER is apparently angry with SMITH because the latter did not divide with FOSTER the proceeds of some meetings held by SMITH in Chicago some time ago at which meetings FOSTER presided. Evidence of this was found in an article by VICTOR RIESEL in the "New York Post," April 4, 1945, entitled "How Genial Gerald Smith Lives the Life of Riley." The circumstances of this article are based upon an alleged disclosure by FOSTER that SMITH is making a large amount of money and living luxuriously as the result of his Nationalist activities

and that FOSTER has severed all connections with SHITH. RIESEL states in his article that "rabble-rousing is big business today and profitable too." A copy of this article was furnished by and is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

An employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Detroit, Michigan, was in contact with SMITH during the early part of April in connection with SMITH'S tax problems. According to SMITH and held a lengthy discussion in the course of which Shifth explained that he had a lot of political enemies and that he wanted to talk to some of the "old timers" in the bureau rather than to someone who had gotten the job in the last three years. stated that he was an "old timer" and that his policy was to give everybody a break. The contact between the two was evidently made by since he told SMITH that the revenue agents from the Department in Washington were checking on SMITH and "I don't want this against you . . . . If they come along and tell me what to do-well, I don't want to do it." The then explained that he had contacted SMITH and given him this information since he wanted to give SMITH a break.

stated that SMITH'S reaction to the death of President Roosevelt had been that it was a good thing the President had died since it was a case of one man with too much authority for too long, a period of time. He stated it was apparent that with Hitler out and with Roosevelt dead all those who tried to get all the power into their own hands soon pass out of the picture. He felt that the death of Roosevelt left Churchill and Stalin in bad shape since to them it was like the death of Santa Claus. He expressed that Truman had been the best man on any of the tickets last fall and would make a better president than Tallace.

According to , SMITH had received mail recently from of Chicago; from a of Prospect, Ohio; from of St. Louis; a of Chicago; from a of Chicago; from a of Denver, Colorado; from Senator Gerald P. Nye; Congressman Roy Soodruff of Michigan; Congressman Hagen, HARD ROMER of St. Marys Ohio; and

Among the persons sending contributions to him were

According to SMTH'S collections through the mails totaled \$14.50 on March 20th and \$33.00 on April 5th. On April 11th, the receipts were \$28.50. On April 18th, he received over 300 responses from his followers in one day, although informant did not know the total

amount of money received. He has evidently been trying to cut down his expenses since he has advised informant that during the summertime the income would be smaller and he now had a pay roll of \$228.50 per week for extra help which would have to be reduced. On April 26th, his donations were \$19.50 and on May 2nd and 3rd, \$22 and \$23 respectively. On May 12th, the donations amounted to \$16.

Informant noted that the name of ROBERT POLERS, one of the owners of the Arnold Powers Printing Company of Detroit, had been added to SMITH'S mailing list indicating that possibly POWERS was a contributor.

, and his company has acted as printer for a number of questionable groups, including Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN'S magazine "Social Justice."

Inasmuch as reports have already been received from the Buffalo and St. Louis Field Divisions concerning the recent appearances of the Subject SMTH inthose field divisions, no leads are being set out for those offices.

### ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU

Reprint of article appearing in the March issue of "The Cross and the Flag" with the word "Garning" at the top in red ink.

Circular entitled Chicago Christians Victorious."

Newspaper clippings from the "Chicago Daily Tribune" which are entitled "100 Vires arn of Bloodshed if Smith Talks" from the March 13, 1945, issue; Reject Protest Against Speech By Gerald Smith" from the March 14, 1945, issue; Police to Guard Gerald Smith's Rally Tonight" from the March 15, 1945, issue; Legion Denies Taking Part in Smith Protest" from the March 19, 1945 issue.

Newspaper clipping from the "Chicago Daily News" of March 16, 1945, entitled "Gerald Smith Speaks; Cheers Inside, Boos Out."

Newspaper clipping from the "New York Post" of April 4, 1945, entitled "Labor New and Comment - How 'Genial Gerald' Smith Lives the Life of Riley" by VICTOR PIESEL.

Portion of "The Sentinel" with headlines "Smith Rally Protested by City." This is from the issue of March 15, 1945.

Four-page mimeographed letter headed "Floodshed and Treason!"

Copies of "The Cross and the Flag" for the months March, April and May.

One invitation card to meeting at Hotel La Salla, Chicago, Illinois, April 22, 1945, under the auspices of the Committee of Veterans - Torld War II.

One invitation to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, April 19, 1945, under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee, representing 21 Nationalist Groups.

One invitation to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri, April 24, 1945, under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee, representing 21 Nationalist Groups.

Three-page mimeographed latter sent by SMITH to the subscribers of "The Cross and the Flag" requesting them to submit names of people to whom he would send two issues of the magazine in the hope they would subscribe.

Copies of "The Letter" for March 17, 1945; March 24, 1945; March 31, 1945; April 7, 1945; April 14, 1945; April 25, 1945; May 2, 1945; and May 9, 1945.

### UNDEVELOPED LEADS

### THE CHICAGO FLALD DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois, will, as requested in Detroit Field Division letters dated March 5 and 12, 1945, submit a report on the results of the meeting held by SubjectSMITH at the Temple Hall, Marshfield and Van Buren, Chicago, Illinois, March 15, 1945.

Will, in accordance with the request contained in Detroit Field Division letters dated April 3, and 17, 1945, submit a report on the meetings held by Subject SMITH at Hotel LaSalle, Chicago, at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. April 2, 1945.

who was in tontact with SMITH during the month of April, and will determine the same information from the same sources concerning and who have cooperated with SMITH in arrangements for the meetings held by him in Chicago on March 15, 1945, and April 22, 1945.

### THE DENVER FIELD DIVISION

At Denver, Colorado, will, in accordance with Detroit Field Division letters deted April 3 and 17, 1945, submit a report concerning the months the Subject SMITH at the Englewood Tabernacle of Dr. HARVEN SPRINGER on April 22, 1945.

### THE SALT LAKE CITY FIELD DIVISION

At Salt Lake City, Utah, will, in accordance with Detroit Field Division letters dated April 3, 17 and 26, 1945, submit a report concerning the meeting held by the Subject SMITH at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, on May 3, 1945.

#### THE SAM FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

At San Francisco, California, will follow and report the activities of the SubjectSMITH while he is in San Francisco in connection with activities of the United Nations Conference. It is being pointed out, however, that no surveillance of SMITH should be conducted and that information obtained should be gotten solely through informants.

Will report the results of any meetings sponsored by SMITH or at which SMITH speaks, it being pointed out that coverage of such meetings should be effected solely through informants. It is noted that SMITH has indicated he may hold a meeting at Oakland, California, during his stay in that state.

Will, upon learning of any plans of the Subject SMITH for conducting meetings in various cities en route from San Francisco to his home in Detroit, Michigan, advise the Bursau, The Detroit Field Division and the field divisions in which such meetings are to be held, of the time and place of such meetings.

### THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

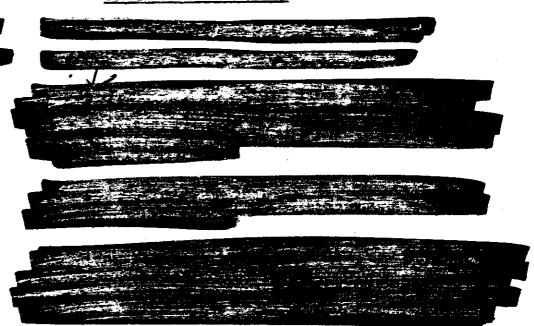
At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with Confidential Informants for the purpose of following further activities of the Subject.

A copy of this report is being sent to the Philadelphia Field Division in view of the incident which prompted SubjectSMITH to write a letter to Director John Edgar Hoover and to the Mashington Field Division in view of SMITH'S continuing activities in Washington, D. C.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, investigative reports submitted in this particular case are not to be distributed to other governmental agencies.

- PENDING -

### CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS



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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

	Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.
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BPB: LV0 62-43818 - 743

Mr. James M. McInerney July 7, 1945 Acting Head, Criminal Division John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

Enclosed for your information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report of Special Agent detection dated May 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan. Also attached are photostatic copies of the enclosed material referred to in this report.

Enclosure

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SETTINGTHENT OF JUSTICE

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED ST\_\_\_\_JOVERNMENT

ro : Director, FRI

DATE: July 6, 1945.

FROM

SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT:

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;

AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

of Mile

furnished this office with the following information regarding subject's future plans:

GERALD L. K. SMITH is leaving for the East within a week or ten days, visiting Salt Lake City, Denver, and Detroit, enroute to Washington. He will remain presumably about two weeks, maybe four. During that time "Ham and Eggs" organization of Los Angeles will book him at San Diego, San Bernardino, Fresno, Oakland, and Sacramento. About three small towns in areas adjacent to each of these cosmopolitan cities will be booked. There will be in all about fifteen engagements. He is returning East to confer presumably with former Senator Reynolds, who married the daughter of Mrs. CISSY McLEAN of the Hope diamond fame, and Senator BURTON WHEELER and other isolationists. It is his intention to establish his first regional head-quarters in Los Angeles and publish a paper dealing with many local issues. Deals will be made with the political outs and minority groups in each community and local action in local politics will be promised.

Copies of instant letter are being furnished interested Field Divisions in which subject is alleged to be scheduled to appear in order that adequate informant coverage may be arranged prior to SMITH's arrival.

Since the above information is only tentative, SMITH's definite plans will be furnished to the Bureau, as well as to interested offices, as soon as SMITH's plans crystalize.

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bic

cc - San Francisco
Salt Lake City
Denver
Detroit
Washington Field
San Diego

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Office Memorandum · UNITED S\_

GOVERNMENT

TO

MR. D. M. IA

DATE: July 13, 1949

FROM

J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT:

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY

INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

I thought you would be interested in knowing that a

we were construed to data, but the was vigeres works attempting

has not been confirmed to date, but the Los Angeles Ullice is attempting to verify it.

In the recent past there have been suggestions that Smith might attempt to move from Detroit to Los Angeles because of the dismal showing he made in the recent Presidential election. Since Smith is a minister he apparently would not have too much difficulty in taking over

If he could retain his Nationalist following, which appears to be substantial in Los Angeles, and at the same time acquire the following built up by the would undoubtedly take on more significance as a political figure to say nothing of the financial benefits he would derive from his leadership of these two groups.

This matter is being closely followed, and you will be promptly advised of any further information we receive definitely indicating Smith is planning to move to Los Angeles.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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## SAN FRANCISCO ENITED NATIONS CONFERENCE AND KINDRED SUBJECTS

Mote: Smith is the Mational Director of the America First Party. Spokesman for 21 Mationalist groups. Is observing and reporting the Conference for 81 periodicals. He is preparing a confidential report for six members of the United States Senate and seventeen members of the Lower House of Congress.

### DIRECT QUOTES:

The Communist Party never disbanded. It has been underground and is now preparing to some out in the open and fight against President Truman and his policies. I assert, upon the authority of Msgr Fulton J. Sheen of Washington, D.C., that the communists have been and will cooperate 100% with the Mazi und ground in the Mestern (Western Hemisphere). They have established headquarter in Mexico City. They are using as their Western Hemisphere propagandists not only mative Mazi-Communists, but Communists who fled Spain. These Spanish Red who are cooperating with Megrin, are valuable because they know the Spanish language, so necessary in South America. Megrin, Browder and their ilk are preparing to undermine the Republics of the Western Hemisphere, which, of sourse, includes the Church.

My observations here and elsewhere convince med that Russia never intended to sincerely cooperate. The incident involving the 16 Poles and the controversy inspired by General Tito was intended purposely to torpedo any attament to unite the nations for peace. Russia does not want peace. She wants a European revolution as well as a Western Hemispheric revolution. The statements coming out of Paris, Milan and Berlin from Communist leaders simultaneous with the arrival of Negrin in the United States, as well as the threatening statement issued by Earl Browder, means that the time has come when every loyal American must brace himself to fight the Communist menace.

#### \*\*\*

RACISM: I do not creach racigm. Accuations to the contrary have originated with Communists in the hope that they can inspire minority groups to cooperate with them in their fight on all anti-Communist organizations. These Reds have been so successful that many journalists and rank-and-file citizens actually believe that I preach racism. The accusation is false. I urge the representat sof minority groups at San Francisco to survey the technique of the Reds in this respect. The Reds are the ones that will introduce racism into the political fight. I believe that any attack on any man because of his race or creed is un-American and un-Christian.

I assert that the State Department knows and is in possession of a document confirming the fact that our representatives at Yalta agreed to give Korea to Stalin in return for certain cooperation.

I accuse the Russians of virtually attempting blackmail on the nations of the World because of what they consider to be their strategic position as it relatest to the Orient.

I accuse the Russians of refusing to help'us whip the Japs until we have agree to junk the regime of Chiang-Kai-shek in China.

GERALD L.K. SMITH

**FOUNDER** 

June=1945

Dear Patriotic Friend:

Your contribution in response to our June letter is accomplishing more than you can imagine. It is making it possible for us to lay a deep and solid foundation on the West Coast, which, until now, we have been unable to do. The following sensational paragraph appeared in Los Angeles papers the morning I wrote this letter. It speaks for itself.

Communist infiltration in the United States and Red revolutionary militancy throughout the Western Hempishere will establish the its citadel or propaganda and action in Hollywood.

Quoting one of the top Communist leaders of the Nation, who spoke this month in Hollywood, the Los Angeles Daily Examiner reveals that the Red traitor said the following:

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We must infiltrate 656666nks of the service men the veterans
returning from the wars and the GIs yet to be called into action. The
thousands of pretty young girls in our Communist Youth Movement must
volunteer as hostesses in USO canteens, churches, social groups wherever
these soldiers, sailors and marines seek recreation and are prone to liste
to a persuasive voice.

And while we are on the subject of our future program, it might just as well be stated now that Communism has outgrown the New York as i headquarters. Henceforth our activities will evolve in Hollywood where the prestige, influence and support of our comrades in the film industry will strengthen our ranks and carry our fight to peop from every walk of life.

As I promised you, I am enclosing herewith a copy of the press release I handed out the day I attempted to meet with 300 newspapermen in the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. We were driven into the street by the police, where I addressed the newspaperemen. Each representative of the press (and the whole world was represented) received a copy of the enclosed statement. Reit carefully because I think it contains a prophetic truth which will gradually be fulfilled in the understanding of the American people.

If you are entitled to my report on the San Francisco Conference, please be advised that the Conference has not ended yet, and the report cannot be prepared and sent to the printers until the Conference in complete.

Of course, I don't need to tell you that the enemy is very vicious and is stopping at nothing. If you have seen the Cross and The Flag for this month you know that the People's Daily World (Stalin's paper) published in Californas actually demanded that I be shot, and if not shot, put away in prison for the rest of my natural life.

I carry on for you and the lovers of tru Americanism in the firm belief that the day of victory for Christian Nationalism is fast approaching.

Sincerely yours,

Ford God and Country Garala T. R. G.

couse the Russians wigh their Communist Interactional, which they falsely said was dissolved of having precipitates. July election in Britian. Stalin wants to get rid of Churchill because Churchill is anti-Communist. Although I have always been critical of Britian's imperialist policies. I favor any cooperation with Churchill that will help him stem the rising tide of Stalinism in Britian.

I do not accept the political philosophy of France, but I do know that France has the cooperation of the Church, and I am convinced that the Negrin movement and the so-called Free Spanish movement are inspired by Stalin's Fifth Column organization in the United States.

I accuse the Russians and the American Communist Party, in cooperation with the Mazi underground in the Western Hemisphere, of conspiring in Mexico City recently to torpedo this Conference and then blame it on the Nationalists.

I accuse the Communists and their cabal of having infiltered the State Department to the end that they have hindered Nationalists periodicals, including some of the great daily newspapers in their attempts to get news concerning proceedings.

I assert that Russia is cooperating with the German citizenry and is preparing to arm the Germans in their plans to communize Europe. I challenge the Russians to deny the fact that former Nazi officers are conspiring with Rassian officials in this strategy. This is one of the reasons for the so-called complete news blackout on the Russian side of the former German territory. It must be remembered that no German city was ever bombed by Russians. I cannot forget that recently Magr Fulton J. Sheen, eminent authroity in the Catholic Church, said: The true materialistic Nazis have been cooperating with the Russian Communists all through the war.

Concerning the proposed charter: I am convinced that U.S. Senator Vandenber is too much of a statesman to ask the Senate to approve anything that would resemble closely the original Dumbarton Caks Plan. Stalin will never surrendent his right of veto. He knows that Russia is planning to do things that not one Republic in the Western Hemisphere, unless it would be Mexico, would approve.

Stettinius should resign immediately. His original appointment was only on the assumption that he would do Roosevelt's will, the late President being, in fact, his swn Becretary of State. Now that we have a President who seems willing to divide authority, Stettinius should be replaced by someone who has spent a lifetime familiarizing himself with world problemms.

A World Charter on the order of Chapaultepec would be satisfactory to most sationalists. Nationalists by and large favor cordial relationship with all nations, provided we are not asked to share sovereignty and provided we are not asked to shed blood and money without the direct consent of the Congress of the United States as it relates to every such act.

I assert that an American made OGPU has operated in San Francisco for the express purpose of following, shadowing and curbing the activities of all metapapers, large and small, whose editorial policy runs contrary to Stalin's plans.

We Mationalists grieve over the terrible hold Communism has on our Nation, but we are encouraged to believe that our Senate will never adopt a Charter which supports certain secret deals at Yalta and the Dumbarton Cake plan.

My persecution and the attempt on the part of journalists and other propagand ists to ridicule our sincere expressions of opinion indicate two things: (1) their expensively organized propaganda campaign.



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### GERALD L.K. SMITH, EDITOR

June 27, 1945

The Comminist Party is re-organizing for a tough, bitter fight. It will know its strategic base of operation from New York to Hollywood. Earl Provder may be sidetracked as a hypocritical gesture. The Party will bonted have to work in perfect harmony with Stalinis government in Russia. All installates and anti-Communists will be branded as Pascists.

Moscowi on June 15 g feature article appeared in ISVESTIA (official Stalin Likews paper written by its editor. The writer condemned certain Americans by name, a renouncing them a menace to Russian-American relations. The Manuscian paper disted them as follows: Chas. E. Joughlin, Serald Like Smith, William Bandolph Searst, Sol. Robert Scormick, U.S. Senator Wiley of Thistories, J.S. Senator Tart of Chio, the Preisthood of the Catholic Church with Mr. and Mrs. Menry Ince. The Russian periodical said: These Americans the present a large and wood minority whose political symmethies and effort the district apposition to the hatlengl interests of the United States.

Merald Lik. Buith from leasing public halls. Their technique is to meet and erganize a delephone samplen, bombarding the management of the speaking the brought in Los Angeles telephone walls to the management of the Philharmonic Auditorium were so terrorising that they made the manager actually believe that his hall would be blenn up the reaction is terrible. Managers can readily detect who is calling, and illuming sometimes terrorised, they become very bitter, due to the fact that the delephone salls make it impossible for them to carry on their couting increase fauth's meetings in Les Angeles have been the Largestn the sity has been for many years.

Someon's Saptain A.R.M. Tensay, member of the British Parliament who was imprisoned for more than four years without a trial for soming to the sid type. Sent, was recently released and is again functioning as a member of

Mugarus 11 be semearce during the last six months of this year that only 14/5 the work pound per person, per month, will be available. Chief cause of thortage has been the re-opening of the distilleries for the manufacture.

s 000 megro weldiers have married white women while abroad and are mow kryl

Sorporal Balph L. Frown of Toungstown, Chio, is possifiered the war a most serious living measualty. He lost both legs and one wra.

Mertrude temphren, writer for the PROPLES DAILY WORLD in the Appeles on fine Mc made the following sensation statement: On Tuewday, May 29 an against of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, named Stewart, tailed on Miss Francis Smiths president-elect of local \$ 9. He said he was acting in accordance with a program being denducted by his organization which was to find the demannists in unions in preparation for a possible breaking off relations by the United States with the Moviet.

The arrest of six individuals for the theft of confidential file has thrown a scare into the pro-Communist elements of Washington. The six ducluded one Phillip Jaffe (New York pro-Communist) and Mark Jayn (forms) dinsburg). Jaffe is one of the heavy contributors to the Communist Party and has been accused of having agrees to important government documents which have been used to promote the interests of the Communist Party in the Crient as well as the U.S. Insiders are convioued that Truman will more doddle Reds as they have been soulded heretofore.

Mex) big war scandal to hit the front pages will benoem bought and paid dray medical discharges. The amoung allged to have been paid guns anto maillions of dollars.

Ethiopia has 200 million head of surplus nattle which she had motisell.

Then Dinto Anderson the news Secretary of Agriculture) wisited Los Angeles on Jun. 16, he was interviewed by one of the editors of this Net Said Mr. Anderson: While chairman of a Congressional Committee Sast year It was my duty to hear testimony from Herald L.K. Smith, M-had been told such terrible things that I expected trouble, only to discover that had been completely misinformed. Anderson dooks and note like a real and merican.

Stalin is determined to have more lend-lease material as well as \$10 bil in aredit. Af he does not get this he will be very hard to mandle, both a it relates to the Ban Francisco Charter and the Japanese war. The buly a diplemacy which pleases Stalin is money, more money, materials and more.

Me wanted some gaseline for a sar with which to visit relatives. An arrow Marine Perk offered him 10 gallons. He needed 100 gallons. Thereupon the Marine hauled off and profited socked the MPA clerk right under the thing inother clerk stepped up and gave the Marine all the stamps he wanted, when the Mo. 1 clerk recovered his consciousness.

TES GOVERNMENT DATE: July 17, 1945 Director, YBI SAC, Detroit GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; CAMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION (62-43818) was the same and the a copy of the June issue of the Cross and the Flag, " edited by Subject SMITH. This issue contains a comment by SMITH titled, J. EDGAR HOOVER defends free speech for America Firsters." (PAGE 581 The above publications are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this letter and are furnished for information purposes. 62-1126 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED Enclosures (2) HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED 10/13/12 BY St-8015/W. **PUBLICATIO** FILER 7 € AUG 2 1945



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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

IS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETR	OIT, MICHIGAN	. •	PILE NO. 100-19053	
PORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MARK	REPORT MADE BY	b?
BAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	7-19-45	7-11-45		Ç MS
GERALD L. K. SMITH,  AMERICA FIRST PARTY	with aliases	•	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION	- G
YNOPSIS OF FACTS:	reflecting B	dditional stat	ements of SMITH. Sub	ject b7D
e S		- RUC -		
REFERENCE:	Report of Sp June 14, 194	ecial Age	dated cisco, California.	bru
DETAILS:	AT SAN FRANC	CISCO, CALIFOR	AIA	
In	addition the	anomied in rel	rt of was received erence report of Speci ts that	TAKANAT
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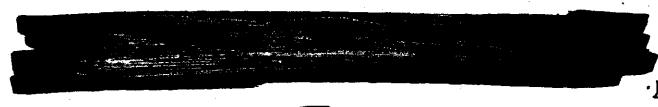


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San Francisco, California File No. 100-19053



The report of also set out the contents of the following publication of SMITH:

- a. A CALL TO THE BRAVE, dated February 1945
- b. THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, #260
- c. THE LETTER, dated April 25, 1945
- d. THE LETTER, dated May 9, 1945
- e. THE LETTER, dated May 16, 1945

The San Francisco Chronicle dated June 7, 1945 reflected that GERALD L. K. SMITH would probably not return to San Francisco to Los Angeles inasmuch as the United Nations Conference on International Organization has terminated and SMITH did not return to San Francisco prior to the end of the conference this case is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

San Francisco, California File No. 100-19053

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION



67C

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GEPAD L.K.SMITT
FILE: 62.43818
SUB:
VOL: 44
PAGES REVIEWED: 60
PAGES RELEASED: 45
NOTES:

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JUL 28 1945

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DIRECTOR AND SAC

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SEDITION. INFORMALTS ADVISE SUBJECT LEFT LOS ANGELES JULY TWENTY SEVEN EN ROUTE TO DETROIT VIA CHICAGO, WHERE HE PLANS TO STOP OVER ONE DAY. INFORMANTS UNABLE TO ADVISE EXACT TIME SUBJECT DEPARTED FROM LA OR MODE OF TRAVEL, ALTHOUGH BELIEVED HE IS TRAVELING BY RAIL. RAILROAD COMPANIES UNABLE TO VERIFY RESERVATIONS. CHICAGO REQUESTED TO BE ON ALERT FOR SUBJECTS ARRIVAW. ACCORDING TO INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE, SUBJECT SHOULD NOT BE SURVEILLED BY BUREAU AGENTS AND COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BY INFORMANTS ONLY. DETROIT, ORIGIN, ADVISED

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162-43818-751 F 10 JUL 31 1945

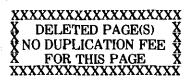
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V:es

AMCCEDISTAC, Detroit

July 31, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. 73
Mr. Clera
Mr. Clera
Mr. Javin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nicools
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trecy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Darson
Mr. Darson

TECHNICAL AND VICROPHONE SURVEILLANCES Detroit Field Division

Reference is made to your teletype of July 17, 1945, captioned "Gerald I. K. Smith, IS - G, Sedition," advising Smith had moved his headquarters and that you had discontinued the technical surveillances on his old headquarters and installed them at his new address. In the future you should request and obtain Bureau approval prior to transferring any technical surveillance from more telephone number to another, and you are to be guided accordingly.

SCALL ED 35 " d. 15.

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Mr. Egan Hendon Pennington

Mr. Tolson

EWT MCM DIRECTOR HIRE

IS - G - SEDITION. SUBJECT MOVED HIS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, DETROIT DISCONTINUED JULY SIXTEEN. TELEPHONES IN NEW HEADQUARTERS ARE RANDOLPH 3163 AND CLIFFORD 4313. TECHNICAL INSTALLATION TRANSFERRED TO INFORMATION WILL BE REPORTED RESPECTIVELY . 61 AND GUERIN

4-58 PM RECEIVED OK FBI WASH DC DLR 5-31 P.M. ENT MMK

CUSS BY SP-8875/m RECORDED MATE OF REVIEW INDEXED ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN **QTRERWISE** 

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT		DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR	REPORT MADE BY	100+7744
Chicago, Illi	nois	6-21-45	3-14,16;4-21,	ABORT MADE BY	TE
TITLE			22,24,26; 5-29	CHARACTER OF CASE	6.110
GERALD L. K. AMERICA FIRST	/ SMITH, wit PARTY	ch aliases;	6-4,13,14-45	INTERNAL SECURITION	TY - G
SYNOPSIS OF FACT	S:				
	held at pressure attendar of Veter Chicago,	Plasterers U from variou ace and near rans of World on April 22	nion Hall. Con s opposition gr riot. SMITH al War II group h	1945, at large residerable publications resulted in so addressed two eld at LaSalle Hostion concerning concerning set out	ity and capacity meetings otel, these
REFERENCE:	and May Letters	from the Det	Detroit, Michi roit Field Divi pril 17, 1945.	dated March gan; sion dated March	
DETAILS: Meeting held !		GO, ILLINOIS	SLIP(S	TY ROUTING	now
that he would (Plasterers Un of the National Samples of the meeting, were	vailable l speak at mion Hall) al Emergen s literat	iterature am a rally to be , 338 South I cy Committee; ure, as well	d tickets from 6 e held on March Marshfield Aven , Post Office B as all availab	ial informants of GERALD L. K. SMIT 15, 1945, at Tenue, Chicago, unde ox 697, Detroit, le information re oit office by a 1	TH, announcing the pole of the same of the
5) - Bureau 3 - Detroit (E	ES OF THIS REPOR	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62 43	BO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACE	RECORDED
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Chicago file No. 100-7744

Chicago office dated March 10, 1945.

In connection with this meeting, a lengthy article, which appeared in the "Chicago Tribune" on March 13, 1945, reflected that more than 100 telegrams warning of possible bloodshed if SMITH was permitted to speak had been received by the Plasterers Union, AFL, who rented the hall to MAXIMILAN ST. GEORGE, Chicago attorney. According to the article, Secretary THOMAS COWLING of the Union stated that St. GEORGE told the union that SMITH was going to discuss the Polish situation, but that DOWLING subsequently learned that the subject was to speak on "Nationalism". SMITH reportedly telephoned the directors of the union on March 12, 1945, claiming that his prepared speech was devoid of statements offensive to religious or racial groups and suggested to DOWLING that the union appoint a committee to sit on the platform with authority to stop the meeting at the first objectionable word. The newspaper account states that protests against the meeting were also made by the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination, Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

On March 13, 1945,

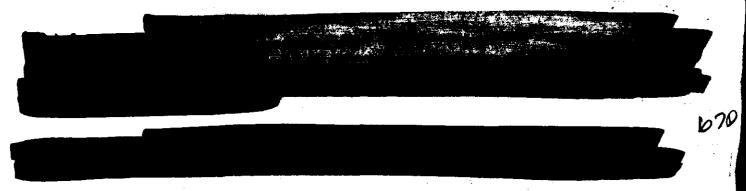
telephonically contacted this office relative to the meeting of March 15, 1945. He said that the union's office had been flooded with calls from persons either approving or disapproving the union's action because of the article which had appeared in the Tribune.

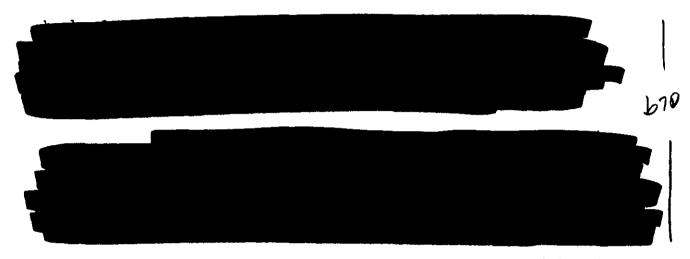
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An article appearing in the "Chicago Tribune" on March 14, 1945, reflected that the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee in a meeting of the Board of Directors on March 13, 1945, had reached the decision and so advised SMITH that the question of the renting of the Plasterers Union Hall was purely a private matter. The article also reflected that THOMAS DOWLING, Union Secretary, had said that several persons who had called to lodge protests against SMITH had used abusive language and that he and the union were tired of "cheap intimidation".

Various other local newspapers carried similar accounts concerning SMITH's efforts to rent the hall for a speech.





"The meeting was held at the Plasterers Hall at 330 South Marshfield Avenue, and according to the best estimates, at least 1200 Chicagosus were in attendance. There is little doubt the publicity, even though bad as to his character and reputation, aided SMITH. Without question, some of the people came purely to see and hear the man who had gained so much notoriety in the press.

"According to outside information, a meeting of more than 200 plasterers voted to uphold the decision of their union heads, who, previously, had told SMITH that they were in fevor of free speech, and that he might go on, 'provided that they could approve his speech and then be on hand to halt it if he deviated from what he told them he would talk about.' In this connection, a member of the union who attended the senctioning meeting said that SMITH didn't want to speak from a prepared text, and this, he said, accounted for the fact that the three heads of the union—president, vice president, and secretary—were on the stage that night.

"Much of the previous ado surrounding his meetings was lacking. Outside, a group of perhaps 20 or 25 youths, 18 years old or younger, marched about in chain fashion, holding placards and denouncing SMITH in sing-song. This, added to the fact that the brown-out made it almost impossible to see five yerds shead, added an eerie background to the picture.

Chicago file No. 100-7744

"A young fellow, who later was spoken of as a recently discharged veteran, and who was introduced as FRED KISTER, 1100 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, opened the meeting. He spoke of threats and dangers to country and liberty. He tried to picture SMITH as a martyr. He referred to the 'dangerous marchers outdoors who', he said, 'bad thrown over an elderly woman who wanted to enter the hall.'

"SMITH, who came in by a side door, was finally introduced after a series of pictures taken by the press. SMITH alleged in his opening remarks that he was 'as cool as I always am'. Yet, this in itself indicated that SMITH was disturbed, but he made the most of the situation. 'That', he said, 'shows you the type of enemy whom we have to confront'. He termed them gangsters. He branded them as un-American, and he made somewhat of an opening 'hit' with the crowd, which was responded to from the audience, when he asked, 'What would they say if we demonstrated at one of their meetings?'

"It should be stressed that SMITH tried constantly to make the most of this situation. He wanted to drive home that the demonstrations were not in favor of free speech. He recounted how he had been well and courteously received by the police department. He intimated that he didn't expect to see the chief of police; in other words, that he didn't think the chief would see him, but he put it over with the crowd that the chief's secretary told him immediately that if he would wait a minute, the chief would see him.

"SMITH was still following the same line when he put on one of his 'dynamic' dramatics in behalf of the plasterers union. He likened them to old American lovers of freedom and asked the audience to give them a vote of thanks. The crowd rose en masse and cheered lustily. About this time, also, the first of the four rocks smashed a window in the hall. He paid high tribute to the men on the stage. He said they were there to check his speech, that he had given them the right to halt his talk whenever they saw fit. With each of the four crashing stones through the windows, SMITH would halt, ask the people to remain calm, which they seemed to do enyway, and he would point out that they were 'murderous attacks' on freedom of speech.

"SMITH spoke of the 200 protests which came to the union officials against his renting the hall. Sixty of them, he said, were absolutely identical. He intimated throughout that he didn't want to issue any of his customary anti-Semitic remarks, but in this connection, he did so by innuendo. He said that if he read the names of the list of protestors he would be termed 'opposed to that minority group', and the crowd let out its first real howl. A voice in the audience boomed out something and SMITH came back and said, 'A good old Irish plasterer'.

MHowever, SMITH's talk lacked punch. No doubt some of the things had been ruled out by the union. His attacks on the President and his family were there, in a measure, but he was holding his punches to a noticeable extent. In reality, his attacks on Soviet Russia also were only half of what they had heen before. He tested the idea of being pro-Catholic, and he got a fairly favorable response, and immediately set out to propound the issue. The Reds, seeid, were to kill off Catholicism. He touched upon Italy being Sovietized. He mentioned a Catholic bishop, who, he said, was in the thick of the fight.

"He repeated almost word for word the story about Dumbarton Oaks, how he tried to 'crash' the line just to prove that Americans were barred. Many of the old timers up front, particularly, to The Mothers group, had heard it before, and he wasn't making much headway.

"The most response which SMITH drew was in his attacks on WALTER INCHELL, whom he referred to constantly as WALTER SIPSCHITZ. The crowd was furious. He developed this subject to the full. 'WINCHELL,' he said, 'dares not visit two cities in the United States—Detroit and Chicago.' He claimed the people would take care of him if he came here, and alleged that WINCHELL was afraid to come here. 'When my son returns from the army', he told the cudience, 'his first trip will be to "beat up" WINCHELL.' The crowd youled in delight.

"He mentioned that GEORGE VOSE, who formerly appeared with him, who, he repeated again 'was about to lose a leg as a result of military service' was maliciously attacked by WINCHELL, and that it caused 'bitter agony' to his 'God fearing family'. He denied, as WINCHELL alleged, that VOSE had ever been in the brig while in the Army. He did say that VOSE, at one time, had been falsely accused, but 'when he left the Army, he was given an honorable discharge, and across the face of that document there is written 'Conduct very good'.

"He branded WINCHELL's story about his having trod on the flag a terrible lie. He pulled out a flag, which he described as a 'One Worlders' Flag', which he said he had stepped on 'because it is a treasonable flag'. The crowd booed, and the newspaper photographers flashed countless bulbs. He then held up an American flag which he said had been made for him by a Southern toman, and he made the audience salute that flag while the photographers again trapped a series of victures.

"SMITH alleged that during the afternoon 'several thugs' had entered the hall brandishing weapons, and that one of them shoved the gun into the janitor's ribs, telling him not to interfere while 'these gangsters', as he put it, 'destroyed things in the hall'. The press said the next day that the janitor denied having

encountered 'the gangsters' although a stench bomb was thrown into the hall.

"SMITH drew ringing applause from the crowd when he referred to Senator WHEELER as a real American. He also drew applause when he mentioned CLIZABETS DILLING, and he read a wire from Senator BOB REYNOLDS, which he said read, 'God bless you in your noble fight'. He drew boos when he said that Secretary MOFGENTHAU had prolonged the war, and, as a result, that 'thousands of American boys have died.' He said that his boy in service has been wounded twice, had been a Carlson Marauder, and that 'he remains a buck private, because every time he enters an officer's school, WALTER LIPSCHITZ attacks him'.

"SMITH told his audience that America First had now embarked upon a new venture—the inauguration of a press service, and that already 26 newspapers had subscribed to it. He said that he had organized a Washington lobby with 24 organizations behind it. He tried to make capital of the story that EMILY TAFT ROUGLAS, the Illinois Congresswoman at large, had been denied radio time because Queen Wilhelmina of Holland could not appear on a program with a Commoner. He got more applause when he stated 'Queen Eleanor' was permitted to talk on the same program, and the crowd shouted 'Oh, no!' when he claimed to have 'notitive' information that 'people in Washington are grooming Crow' Prince JUMNY (POCHEVELT) for the presidency in 1948.

"A man in the audience asked about General ELLIOT's dog, but SMITH replied only with a few tart words spoken with a hush. Since then it has been said that the plasterers frowned upon any attack on the President.

"SMITH was 'dripping wet' from perspiration and called for his overcoat. The noise outdoors grew more pronounced. His collection was thorough but hastily done. He claimed constantly that he wasn't going to flee the scene.

"There was one vitally different aspect to this talk as compared to a former speech, a reaction, it seems, was of some importance. Formerly SMITH referred to himself as leading a small minority group 'which isn't big now, but which will grow with the years'. He spoke of himself and his followers as a movement which was fighting in the face of danger and even death. On this night, however, SMITH spoke about fighting—about street fighting, and about 'One of these days we'll have to meet them openly'. He drew rounds of applause from the audience for this remark, and it was obvious that SMITH was issuing a challenge. He said openly that his crowd was no longer willing to 'take it sitting down'. 'However, tonight', he said, 'I ask you to go home peacefully. Do not answer any remarks or charges. They are just waiting to have you cause physical violence. I have promised the police and our hosts that there will be no violence'.

"The thing, it seems, which gave SMITH more courage than anything else, and which occasioned him to get hold about future meetings, was when he asked the question: 'Are you in favor of it?' The crowd shouted it was. He asked, 'Any opposed?' He waited and expected opposition, but it didn't come. He feared no doubt that troublesome factors were in the audience and was satisfied that the twelve men at the door checking spurious admission cards had done a good job, and that the audience was friendly

"There is little question that many in the audience were German, at least decidedly German in appearance. At least 80 percent were above middle age, and some German was heard in the crowd on the way out. SMITH's Chicago crowd apparently has changed. It seems to have taken on in numbers.

"The finale to the program was just after SMITH had left the stage. Dr. McDANIELS, a Chicago dentist, rushed up on the platform and hurriedly read what he said was to be a resolution which was addressed to Father COUGHLIN in Detroit and 'implored' him to return to the radio. The resolution which received a tremendous ovation, but which was not acted upon other than the ovation, read in effect that 'It's time that you return to the radio'.

"SMITH, in place of the former GEORGE VOSE, was 'protected' by a WALLACE GAMBER, a former M. P. of Detroit, who, SWITH said, was 'itching for a little fisticuffs with that element'. GAMBER, a tough-looking individual seemed to acknowledge the introduction."

According to various confidential informants and the press, there was no trouble whatsoever after the meeting, although the afore-mentioned paraders were still in evidence outside the hall. It was learned that there was an attempt to "crash" the meeting by numerous individuals who apparently had obtained counterfeit tickets and were going to heckle the meeting. However a group at the door headed by Dr. McDANIELS, a long-time associate of such groups as the Citizens USA Committee, and other Chicago groups, apparently were very effective in detecting the counterfeit tickets and refused to permit the bearers thereof to gain entrance.

### Meeting Held on April 22, 1945:

By letter dated April 3, 1945, the Detroit office advised that SMITH would leave Detroit on April 21, 1945, for the purpose of attending the International Conference of the United Nations which would begin at San Francisco on April 25, 1945. The letter related that en route to San Francist SMITH would stop at several cities for the purpose of holding meetings of his followers, and that the first meeting would be held in the Century room of

LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, at 3:00 P. M. and 8:00 P. M. on Sunday, April 22.

With reference to these meetings, from the lack of publicity it is apparent that FRED KISTER and SMITH arranged these meetings in a secret manner, and accordingly, the local press and the various groups who had raised so much opposition at SMITH's previous appearance in Chicago, were totally unaware of the meetings until after they had been held.

Actually, two sessions were held by SMITH, both on the same date, and both in the Century Room of the LaSalle Hotel. These sessions were attended by the above mentioned informants and sources of information, and a summary of information obtained by them is set out hereinafter.

The Century Room of the Hotel LaSalle is relatively small, but at both meetings it was filled to capacity, and it was estimated that approximately 350 persons in all attended the meetings. FRED KISTER was the Master of Ceremonies and introduced as the first speaker, DEAN EXAMITH. DEAN SMITH, it might be streed, is a frequent speaker at various Chicago groups, such as the Citizens USA Committee, and is alleged to be prominently associated with the Stradard Oil Company of Indiana.

DEAN E. SMITH spoke in generalities, quoting statistics of men in service of this country as compared to our Allies. He stated that he had obtained his figures from actual observations in war zones. He claimed that he had traveled throughout India, and most parts of Asia, and had found that the administration of the war was completely in the hands of the British, and that the United States as usual was being made the "goat" in this particular war. This was obvious, according to DEAD SMITH, in view of the fact that the majority of the fighting was being done by American soldiers. His entire speech was in this vein, stressing the fact that the United States must avoid all tendencies towards imperialism.

FRED KISTER then made what appeared to be an impromptu speech, in which he bereted the Jews for their part in prompting this war. He claimed that Dr. FISHBEIN, who is the editor of the Jewish Sentinel" was in the audience. However, it developed later that Dr. FISHBEIN was not there, and that this statement made by KISTER was for the purpose of inciting the crowd, KISTER made a tremendous number of anti-Semitic statements which caused GFRALD L. K. SMITH to remark later, "KISTER will probably lose his job because of his remarks. He will have to get another one".

KISTER then introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as the "leader of the Nationalistic group". The subject opened his speech with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner", and then proceeded to point out to the audience that Archbishop SAMUEL STRITCH of Chicago was in total accord with GERALD L. K.

SMITH's various policies. He pointed out that the Archbishop was very much opposed to the Russians and to England, and in that way was completely in accord with him. However, no elaborations were made regarding the activities of Archbishop STRITCH. His next topic dealt with the returning soldier. SMITH pointed out that the Army authorities had indicated it would take three years to bring the men back from war zones, and in order to totally indoctrinate them with the Internationalistic policy, colleges were being built in Europe at the expense of the United States to teach our soldiers there. SMITH also pointed out that it was quite obvious from the developments up to the present time and from the alibis given by various Army officials that our boys would be held in the battle zones to finish the fight for England. He then pointed out that his own son was fighting in the Pacific, had been wounded several times, and that he would do all in his power to have his son return to this country as soon as the war is over and "not to continue fighting for English possessions."

His next point dealt with the intolerances of the Jews. SMITH pointed out that if the United States would be tolerant with the Jews, the same amount of toleration should be expected for Germany at the peace table. He labeled the principles of the San Francisco Peace Conference as "the Dumbarton Hoax", "The Crime of Crimea", and "The San Francisco Sell-Out". He again pointed out that it was quite apparent from the newspaper publicity given to the San Francisco Conference that it was being sponsored to promote the safeguard of British possessions and to enlarge the international strength of Russia.

SMITH's next point dealt with a new Veteran's association. SMITH pointed out that his association was connected in no way with the 'American Legion or the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He vaguely promised that the returning veterans would be taken care of by his organization, but made no definite promise that the funds he is collecting will be used towards that end. He further made no statements as to future plans for the organization, such as specific meetings, etc.

SMITH made further reference to the Jews when he pointed out that Lever Bros., Inc., international Jewish concern, having possessions in the Pacific Islands, as well as in Europe, received a tremendous overpayment on losses suffered due to the war. He pointed out that Lever Brothers owned some palm trees in a small Pacific island, which were valued at 26 a tree. According to SMITH, Lever Brothers were reimbursed at the rate of \$50 a tree.

As each person entered the meeting hall, envelopes were distributed with the request that a dollar be placed therein for a subscription to SMITH's publication, "The Cross and the Flag". SMITH made a passionate

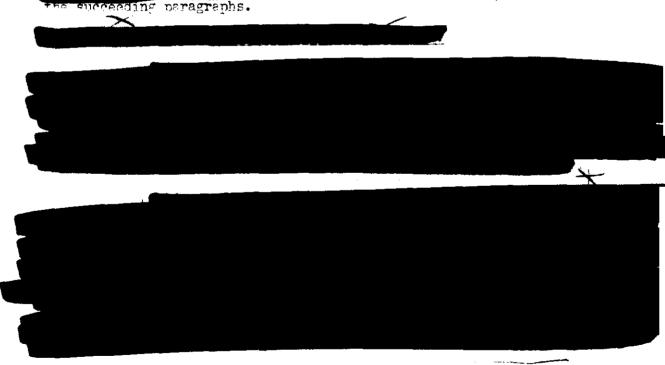
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ples for donations, and according to the informants, many \$5 bills were placed in the basket. It was estimated that at lesst \$500 or more was taken in by SMITH at each meeting.

On the stage with SMITH, in addition to FRED KISTER and DEAN E. SMITH, was CHARLES J. ANDERSON. ANDERSON, who was a Republican candidate for Congressman in the Chicago district in the last election, is a notorious local rabble-rouser, who has been actively associated with FARL COUTHARD's Citizens USC Committee, and the local We The Mothers group. He was introduced by SMITH as a prominent leader in the Nationalistic movement.

As indicated hereinbefore, the audience seemed for the most part handpicked, and in accord with SMITH's statements. It appeared that SMITH completely fooled the press and the various opposition groups, as only slight reference was made in the press to these meetings and then only several days after the meetings had taken place.

The reference report of Special Agent dated May 29, 1945, at Detroit, requested information in the files of this office relative to This information is set out in



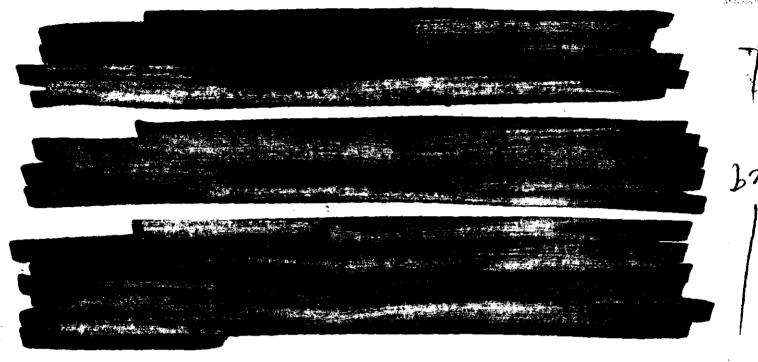


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Chicago file No. 100-7744



As indicated above, these facts were presented to the United States Attorney at Chicago, who, as stated above, took no action thereon.

There are transmitted to the Detroit office as enclosures to this report one conv of

Enclosures: To the Detroit Field Division, Letter entitled, "Blood and Money" dated June, 1945; Letter entitled, "A Message From San Francisco", dated May, 1945.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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Assistant Attorney Ceneral T. L. Quelle Griminal Division August 8, 1945

John Edgar Hosver - Director, Pederal Bureau of Investigation

CHRALD L. K. SMITH, with aliance AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G. SEDITION

For your further information in the poptioned datter, there are enclosed herewith copies of the following investigative reporter:

Report of Special Agent | Los Angeles, California, dated June 14, 1945, at

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Report of Special Agent Chicago, Illinois dated June 21, 1945, at

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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## cderal Bureau of Investigation

United States Bepariment of Justice

Post Office Box 2118 Detroit 31, Michigan July 31 - 1945

## ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED NEREW IS UNCLASSIFIED 10/13/82 BY SPIBE

Director, FBI

GERALD L. K. SMITH Was. AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below information obtained from identities are known to the Bureau, for the period from July 1, 1945, through July 30, 1945. It is to be noted that the services of informents and were discontinued on July 16, 1945, and the were started on July 17, 1945. This services of and information is contained in the teletype from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau, captioned as above, dated July 17, 1945

The only information of value obtained from the above informants was that om Tuly 30, 1945, they advised that Subject SMITH was due to arrive in Detroit, Michigan, from Los Angeles, California, on August 1, 1945. It was further advised that he was stopping over at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, but did not disclose the exact train on which he was arriving in Detroit, Michigan.

It is to be noted that during the period covered by this letter, Subject SMITH has been outside the Detroit Field Division and no activity has taken place at his office during his absence.

However, in view of the past services that these informants have furnished and in view of the fact that Subject SMITH is due back in Detroit August 1, 1945, it is suggested that the services of informants be continued.

RECORDED WELL truly soup

Special Agent in Charge

**DEVICTORY** 

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

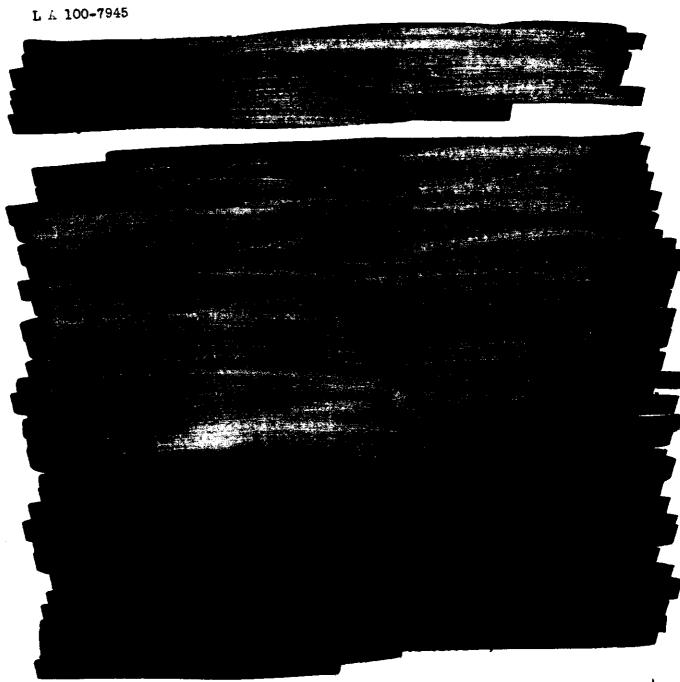
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dated June 4, 1945, on the meeting held at the Embassy Auditorium on Thursday evening, May 31, featuring GERALD L. K. SMITH:

#### L & 100-7945

"Admittance was gained upon presentation of printed invitations reading as follows:

'This Invitation Will Admit Two Persons to Hear an Address by GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First Leader, Embassy Auditorium, 9th and Grand Streets, Los Angeles, Calif., Thursday, May 31, 1945 - 8 P. M.

Subject: LIBERTY IN THE BALANCE. The terrible Truth and unpublished Lowdown concerning San Francisco Conference. Among many others, Mr. Smith will discuss the following topics:

The Truth About Yaltz Dumbarton Oaks Bretton Woods The Schemes of the Internationalists
The Threat of Communism
The Super State

Christ, Our Only Hope

Auspices Committee of California Pastors.

H. L. MENCKEN, Baltimore Sun editor, says: "GERALD L. K. SMITH is the greatest orator of this century."

LOWELL THOMAS says: "Smith, as a dynamic and courageous orator, is unsurpasses.

ADMISSION BY CARD ONLY. FOR ADDITIONAL CARDS WRITE BOX 2508, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

"Approximately 2,000 people attended, the audience being composed of various groups, among them British Israelites who are followers of Dr. J. A. LOVELL, Ham 'n' Eggers who are followers of WILLIS and LAWRENCE ALLEN, many people who were seen regularly at meetings conducted by ROBERT NOBLE, ELLIS O. JONES. and T. W. HUGHES.

"Interruption by applause of many of SMITH's statements, in the middle of a sentence, indicated that many people were familiar with SMITH's propaganda output, for only in that way were they able to know what he was going to say.

"Envelopes for donations were distributed at the entrance, but the donations in general appeared to be rather meager. When SMITH began his collection speech, many people walked out and were overheard saying they wouldn't give him a dime. However, the people who made these remarks did not seem to belong to any group which at the very outset was opposed to SMITH. Many came as curiosity seekers and were disappointed.

#### L A 100-7945

"SMITH is not a good orator, though the term 'rabble rouser' is well deserved by him. He is not the kind of a speaker who could sway even a fairly intelligent group. He seems to know this and plays down to the uncultured and the unimaginative among the audience. Generally SMITH had nothing to say which differed from the contents of his various publications. He rambled on from subject to subject, always leading up to a climax, and when, after he had reached the climax, he received good applause, he added, 'This is what America First stands for!' Throughout his speech he was very careful not to make a straight statement which could be interpreted as anti-Semitic, but there were many anti-Semitic statements through innuendo. statement, frequently repeated, that this is a Christian nation, was of course understood by the hate gang, not merely as what it appeared to be on the surface, but an indirect attack upon non-Christians, mainly Jews. In one instance he even went so far as to condemn what he called 'racialism,' but it was obvious, at least to the initiated, that he did not mean what he said.

"Before SMITH spoke, CLAUDE A. WATSON, SMITH's attorney, spoke briefly. WATSON formerly was a minister and a candidate for the presidency on the Prohibition ticket. In January 1944, WATSON spoke in LOVELL's church. Rev. WESLEY SWIFT of Lancaster, California, gave the invocation. WILLIS ALLEN led the audience in the sizging of 'America' and in what seemed to be the battle song of the old age pensioners to the tun of 'John Brown's Body.'

"JONATHAN PERKINS read a telegram from ex-Senator ROBERT RICE REYNOLDS.

"In the early part of SMITH's own speech, he too read another telegram from REYNOLDS, congratulating him for holding the meeting and urging the audience to follow SMITH in his crusade against the un-Christian Communists.

"In the early part of the meeting, SMITH also read a letter from J. EDGAR HOOVER, which was in reply to a letter that SMITH had written to HOOVER.

"It appears that the owners of a building in Philadelphia insisted that SMITH's organization leave its rented premises at a moment's notice, and the owners claimed that this was being requested of the SMITH group because the FBI wanted it. SMITH protested to J. EDGAR HOOVER, and in his reply, which SMITH read, HOOVER stated that the FBI had nothing to do with it and there was an implied disapproval of this action. SMITH acted as if he really had something of importance there and played it up big for the benefit of the audience and dared the press to print the story.

#### L & 100-7945

"SMITH devoted considerable time to telling the story of the trouble he had in San Francisco trying to get hotel accommodations. He emphasized how many foreigners were there, all of whom were given hotel accommodations by the State Department, which had absolute control over all first class hotels, while he, the great Mr. SMITH, was turned down in spite of the fact that he represented so and so many hundreds of thousands of Christian Americans, several nationalist newspapers and so and so many nationalist drganizations. He paid tribute to some courageous and upright people in San Francisco who stood by him and arranged for a room in a second class hotel.

"Then he tried to give a very vivid account of some tremendous pressure allegedly brought to bear upon the management of the Embassy Auditorium to cancel the lease he had. He said the people threatened violence, that they would bomb the place, that they would spit on the people who would come, etc., etc. He said the Embassy Auditorium was so harassed that they could not attend to their regular work, but that they stood by their contract. The only way to kill off GERALD L. K. SMITH, he added, would be to kill him, but if the red rats did do that, 10,000 little Smiths would rise to continue the fight for good old America First. He made himself out as quite a courageous hero and complimented the people who had courage to sit on the platform with him. If they would not believe in Christ, they would not be here on the platform.

"While he was still on the subject of his own heroics, he stated that when war broke out the New Dealers and the radicals had planned to put him, REYNOLDS, LINDBERG, WHEELER, NYE, and FISH in a concentration camp. As a matter of fact, the concentration camp was all prepared but here he was free, speaking for America First, and the others were free too.

"He claimed that Los Angeles was full of Communists and got a laugh from the audience when he added that Hollywood has a few Communists too. He quoted a statement allegedly made by Mayor BOWRON, according to which BOWRON is supposed to have said that he will see to it that the meeting is protected, but the sooner SMITH leaves the better he would like it. He dwelt upon this for quite some time, saying that he accepted the first part of the Mayor's statement, but regarding the second he answered the Mayor that he will stay in this city as long as he pleases.

"Apparently SMITH felt that he should explain that he would not move in on any of the crackpot racketeers, for he said that a prophet can always be told by the opinion the people have in his own home town. He claimed to have a tremendous following in Detroit, and 600,000 members in the State of Michigan. He boasted of having 30 people on his staff in Detroit and how eager he was to return to his home town.

#### L A 100-7945

"Returning to what seems to be one of his favorite subjects, the alleged persecution of himself by snoopers of private agencies as well as government agencies, he said that he had been investigated by everybody, including the Treasury Department, which went way back to his income tax reports in the early '30's, but that he is clean and has nothing to fear. He made frequent references to the red rats he was fighting, implying that all these investigations and other troubles he had are due to them.

"He made an outright statement that he and ex-Senator ROBERT RICE REYNOLDS are working together in the cause of Nationalism and against Communism.

"To illustrate how bad the Bolshevics are, he told the tale, according to which the Russians were holding hundreds of thousands of American prisoners of war until STALIN gets what he wants regarding Poland. He said that the Communists have an organization all set up through which they hope to gain control of the returning veterans, but he, SMITH, would see to it that their plans would fail; otherwise we would have a bloody red revolution within two years.

"He stated that he recently visited in the home of HAMILTON FISH, and it took EARL BROWDER, Tom DEWEY and President ROOSEVELT to defeat him. He said that if it had not been for the conniving on the part of the Administration, which rearranged the Congressional districts, FISH would have been reelected. In connection with this story, he said that a bill was prepared by the Administration and given to Senator JOHNSON of Colorado to introduce. It was the War Manpower Commission bill which, if it had passed, would enable the Government to move labor from one city to another to fill important war jobs. He said that at the last minute Senator JOHNSON realized that this would enable the New Dealers to shift populations in such a manner that they would control all future elections so Senator JOHNSON fought his own bill and prevented its becoming law.

"In connection with his reference to HAMILTON FISH, he also referred to CHARIES LINDBERGH again, saying that the smear of LINDBERGH, the greatest hero of our time, if proof of how low we have sunk.

"He attacked WALTER WINCHELL, whose real name is supposed to be LIPSCHITZ. He called him the usual kind of names, said he is ashamed of his real name, and every time he goes on the air on Sunday evening he creates more anti-Semitism than anyone else. He denied that his own group is anti-Semitic. He related stories he often told in his publications, that WINCHELL had accused him of spitting or trampling on the American flag in Buffalo, New York, and that he, SMITH, instituted a libel suit against WINCHELL and the radio station network, but the attorneys are dragging the case out. He added that the people in this country are beginning to wake up to the fact that the newspapers and the radios are lying.